[Translation]

LPG Agency

34. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' :
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a special scheme for providing new gas connections and opening of more LPG agencies in the hilly areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b). Government has authorised Public Sector Oil Companies to release LPG connections in Hilly areas to clear the waiting list with the existing LPG distributors in such areas. As far as opening of new distributorships are concerned, new distributorships are planned from time to time depending upon the requirement and potential. New LPG marketing plan will cover rural areas, hilly and small towns.

(c) Does not arise.

HBJ Gas Pipeline

35. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of gas being supplied through HBJ gas pipeline at present and the total capacity of this pipeline to supply gas, as on October, 1996; and

(b) the total requirement for setting up a gas-based power house in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The present rated capacity of the HBJ pipeline is 18.2 MMSCMD. The current supply through this pipeline is around 20 MMSCMD.

(b) No gas has been allocated for a gas based power project in Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Kayamkulam Project

36. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position of the proposed Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant in Kerala;

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(c) the total cost incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project (400 MW) in Kerala to be implemented by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has been accorded investment approval by Government of India on 18.9.1996 based on World Bank funding. The main plant turnkey contract for the project has been awarded to M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) on 18.9.1996. Mobilisation is in progress. In addition, various infrastructural activities viz., construction of approach roads, drains, site levelling and temporary office building are in progress.

(b) The first and second gas turbines of the project are scheduled to be commissioned by March, 1999 and May, 1999 respectively. The steam turbine of the project is scheduled to be commissioned by March, 2000.

(c) The total cost incurred on the project ending October, 1996 is Rs. 30 crores approximately.

Subsidised Wheat

37. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have stopped supplying wheat at subsidised rate to Modern Food Industries Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The term of the scheme for supplying wheat at subsidised rates to Modern Food Industries (India) Limited has come to an end on 31.10.1996.

Minimum Needs Programme

38. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether funds in addition to the budgetary provisions are proposed to be allocated for the minimum needs programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has also recommended for more funds; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d). A Conference of Chief Ministers held on 4-5th July, 1996 identified seven Basic Minimum Services